#### PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

### HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #_	87B-28	Building Date
BUILDING	NAME	Trueman Point (Landing)
LOCATION_	18610 1	rueman Point Road, Eagle Harbor, Aquasco
	<b>.</b>	

Private / Open lot / Unoccupied / Poor / Accessible

## Description:

This is a point of land that projects out into the Patuxent River, forming shallow coves on each side of the land. It is at the very end of Eagle Harbor Road, adjacent to the village of Eagle Harbor - which is a small, Negro resort community. The remains of pilings from the old steamboat wharf are still present. The wharf had a barn-like shed at the end, where tobacco and other goods could be sheltered from the elements. (See old photos in the Mariner's Museum, Newport News, Va.). Used mainly by fishermen today.

## Significance:

Trueman Point served as the river port for Aquasco farmers throughout the 18th, 19th, and early 20th centuries. In 1747 it was named as a site for a state designated tobacco inspection warehouse. However, area inhabitants requested that the warehouse be located at Hannah Brown's Landing, known as Magruder's Landing, instead. Trueman Point apparently never had an official tobacco inspection warehouse, although it continued in use as a point for shipping tobacco and other merchandise.

In 1817 George Weems established the Weem's Steamboat Company of Baltimore, and acquired landings, including Trueman Point, up and down the Patuxent River. After Weem's death the company was continued by Mason Locke Weems and Theodore Weems. The Weems Line conveyed all its assets to the Maryland, Delaware and Virginia Railroad Company in 1905, at a cost of one million dollars. The Baltimore and Virginia Steamboat Company acquired the property in 1926 but went bankrupt in 1932. This appears to be the end of steamboat traffic at the Trueman Point wharf. From that time on the 9.6 acre property has been owned by individual property owners and has remained undeveloped.

Acreage: 9.6 acres

DATE:

June 17, 1987

T0:

Historic Preservation Commission

FROM:

Marina King, Architectural Historian

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Historic Site Designation of Trueman

Point, P.G. #87B-28

Trueman Point was a landing for Patuxent River trade during the 18th, 19th and early 20th century. There is no physical evidence remaining of its long history of use, however. For this reason, I believe that it does not fulfill any of the architectural criteria.

There may be some archelogical evidence of its use as a tobacco shipping point from the 18th through the 20th century. Therefore, it could fulfill criteria 1 (a) and (d). It was not one of the ports of heaviest traffic during the 18th century, because it had no state designated tobacco inspection warehouse. Nottingham, Hill's Landing and Magruder's Ferry were more heavily used. From 1860 through 1932 Trueman Point was a stop for the Weems Steamboat Line as well as others. I cannot say what archeological investigation would produce, or that such investigation would enlarge our knowledge of 18th, 19th, and 20th century river trade.

It is worthwhile to note that at this time there are no designated historic sites to commemorate the Patuxent River trade. All the other landing places, like Trueman Point, have no architectural remains. P.G. #82B-25, Nottingham Archeological Site, is a National Register Site, however, it was studied and noted for prehistoric rather than colonial occupation.

MK:sac

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE \_\_yes \_\_no

4 31					
1. Nam	le (indicate p	referred name)			
historic True	eman Point			-	
and/or common	same				
2. Loca	ation				
street & number	18610 Trueman	Point Road		not for	publication
city, town Ea	gle Harbor	vicinity of	congressional dist	-	
state Ma	ryland	county	Prince Georg	je's	
3. Clas	sification	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Category  district building(s) structure _X_ site object	Ownership  public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered not applicable	Status occupied _X_ unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainme government industrial military	pai pri nt reli sci tra	seum  k vate residence igious entific nsportation erno presen
	ner of Prope	rty (give names a	nd mailing addr		USP
street & number	n L. Harper 9604 Croo	n Road	4-1-mb		627-3349
city, town	Upper Marlboro		telephor	MD 20772	
	ation of Leg	al Description		20,,2	
	stry of deeds atc	rince George's Count		liber	
city, town Uppe	er Marlboro		6	ate MD	
<del></del>	resentation	in Existing	Historical S		
	toric Sites and Dis			-	
date 198	1		federal	state X co	unty loca
depository for su	rvey records M-NCPPC,	History Division	-d 112-1- 1 -		
city, town Ri	iverdale, Maryland	History Division a	<del>nd Historic Pre</del> Room 4010/CA	<del>Servation Co</del> B <sub>te</sub> Upper Mar	<del>Ommission -</del> lboro Mn

7. Descript	ion
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Survey No. PG878-28

Condition     Check one     Check one      excellent    deteriorated    original site      good    ruins    altered    moved     date of move      fair    unexposed	
--	--

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This is a point of land that projects out into the Patuxent River, forming shallow coves on each side of the land. It is at the very end of Eagle Harbor Road, adjacent to the village of Eagle Harbor-which is a small, Negro resort-type community. The remains of pilings from the old steamboat wharf are still present. The old wharf had a barn-like shed at the end, where tobacco and other goods could be sheltered from the elements. (See old photos in the Mariner's Museum, Newport News, Va.). Used mainly by fishermen today.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. 87B-28

	-1499 archeology-historic -1599 _X agriculture -1699 architecture	heck and justify below  community planning  conservation  economics  education  engineering  exploration/settlement  industry  invention	Iandscape architectur Iaw Iterature Indicary Ind	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify) maritime
Specific	dates	Builder/Architect		
check:	Applicable Criteria:A and/or Applicable Exception: Level of Significance:	A _B _C _D _	EFG local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Trueman Point served as the river port for Aquasco farmers throughout the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries. In 1747 it was named as a site for a state designated tobacco inspection warehouse. However, area inhabitants requested that the warehouse be located at Hannah Brown's Landing, now known as Magruder's Landing, instead. Trueman Point apparently never had an official tobacco inspection warehouse, although it continued in use as a point for shipping tobacco and other merchandise.

In 1817 George Weems established the Weem's Steamboat Company of Baltimore, and acquired landings, including Trueman Point, up and down the Patuxent River. After Weem's death the company was continued by Mason Locke Weems and Theodore Weems. The Weems Line conveyed all its assets to the Maryland, Delaware and Virginia Railroad Company in 1905, at a cost of one million dollars. The Baltimore and Virginia Steamboat Company acquired the property in 1926 but went bankrupt in 1932. This appears to be the end of steamboat traffic at the Trueman Point wharf. From that time, on the 9.6 acre property has been owned by individual property owners and has remained undeveloped.

## Notes

- Louise Joyner, Hienton, <u>Prince George's Heritage</u>, Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland, 1972. pg. 133.
- Alan Virta, <u>A Pictorial History of Prince George's County</u>, Donning Company, Norfolk, Virginia, 1984. pg. 140
- 3 Land Records of Prince George's County, 22:263, 262:210, 444:148, 447:103, 5285:14, 6474:370.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. 87B-28

See notes, #8

10. Geograp	hical Data		
Acreage of nominated prope  Quadrangle name Bened  UTM References do NOT		rences	Quadrangle scale
A Zone Easting	Northing	B Zone	Easting Northing
C		D	
Verbal boundary descrip	ion and justification		
List all states and counti	es for properties ove	rlapping state or c	ounty boundaries
state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code
11. Form Pro	epared By		
name/title Ma	rina King, Archite	ectural Historia	an
organization Historic Pr	eservation Commiss	sion d	late June 1987
street & number 14741 Gov	. Oden Bowei Drive	<u>t</u>	elephone 952-4609
city or town Upper Mar	1 hawa	•	state MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

	<del></del>	<del></del>		
NAME				
HISTORIC				
Trueman	Point			
AND/OR COMMON				
2 LOCATION	J			
	•			
STREET & NUMBER	Marbor Road, at Pat	urrant Dirran		
CITY, TOWN	laiboi Road, at Pat	uxent kivei	CONGRESSIONAL DISTRI	CT
Aquasco		VICINITY OF		-
STATE	<del></del>		COUNTY	
Marylan	.d		Prince Geo	rge's
3 CLASSIFIC	CATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
BUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	<b>№</b> вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENCE
✓SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
_OBJECT	N PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
		_NO	MILITARY	OTHER
Ethel L	. Nixon		Telephone #:	
CITY, TOWN			STATE, Z	ip code
		VICINITY OF	·	
5 LOCATION	N OF LEGAL DESCR	IPTION	Liber #:	
COURTHOUSE.		•	Folio #:	
REGISTRY OF DEEDS	ETC. Prince George	's County Court		
STREET & NUMBER				
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
Upper N	Marlboro		Maryland	
6 REPRESEN	TATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS	······································	
TITLE				
DATE		FEDERAL _	_STATECOUNTYLOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS				·····
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CITY, TOWN			STATE	

## 7 DESCRIPTION

\_G00D \_\_FAIR

CON	IDITION	CHECK ONE	CHECK	NE
EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	UNALTERED	<b>V</b> ORIGINAL	SITE
_G00D	RUINS	ALTERED	MOVED	DATE
FAIR	UNEXPOSED			

#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is a point of land that projects out into the Patuxent River, forming shallow coves on each side of the land. It is at the very end of Eagle Harbor Road, adjacent to the village of Eagle Harbor-which is a small, Negro resort-type community. The remains of pilings from the old steamboat wharf are still present. The old wharf had a barn-like shed at the end, where tobacco and other goods could be sheltered from the elements. (See old photos in the Mariner's Museum, Newport News, Va.) Used mainly by fishermen today.

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
—PREHISTORIC —1400-1499 —1500-1599 —1600-1699 —1700-1799 —1800-1899 —1900-	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC  AGRICULTURE  ARCHITECTURE  ART  COMMERCE  COMMUNICATIONS	COMMUNITY PLANNING CONSERVATION ECONOMICS EDUCATION ENGINEERING EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT INDUSTRY	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE LAW LITERATURE MILITARY MUSIC PHILOSOPHY POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	RELIGION SCIENCE SCULPTURE SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN THEATER TRANSPORTATION OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This was an important Patuxent River tobacco landing for years. The last commercial use of the site was when steam packets from Baltimore stopped here, early in this century.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

EOGRAPHICAL DATA	
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY	
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION	
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STATE  FORM PREPARED BY  NAME / TITLE  Michael F. Dwyer, Ser  ORGANIZATION  M-NCPPC	county  county  nior Park Historian  DATE 6/3/74  TELEPHONE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

#### Chain of Title

Trueman's Point P.G. #87B-28

6478:370 12 Nov. 1986 Deed Kenneth W. Sumner to Leon L. and Vivian A. Harper. For \$39,000 grantor conveys that parcel in the 8th Election District of 9.65 acres. Same conveyed 6/5/80 Frank E. Mounsey, devisee under will of Ethel Nixon Mounsey, 5285:14.

5285:14 5 June 1980 Deed Frank E. Mounsey, devisee under will of Ethel Nixon Mounsey, dec'd. March 7, 1953, to Kenneth W. Sumner. For \$9,000 grantor conveys tract of indeterminate acreage. Shown on map entitled "River Addition, Eagle Harbor."

447:103 March 17, 1936 Deed Philip J. Stubener of Charles County to Ethel Louise Nixon of Washington, D.C. For \$10 grantor conveys that parcel obtained from James U. Dennis, Trustee, 6 March 1936. That property known as Truman's Point Wharf - same in deed from Georgianna Williams, et al to The Weems Steamboat Co. of Baltimore, Jan. 4, 1892, JWB 21:29.

444:148 6 March 1936 Deed James U. Dennis, Tr. of bankrupt estate of the Balimore and Virginia Steamboat Co. to Philip J. Stubener of Charles County. For \$40 Dennis conveys Truman's Point wharf property to Stubener.

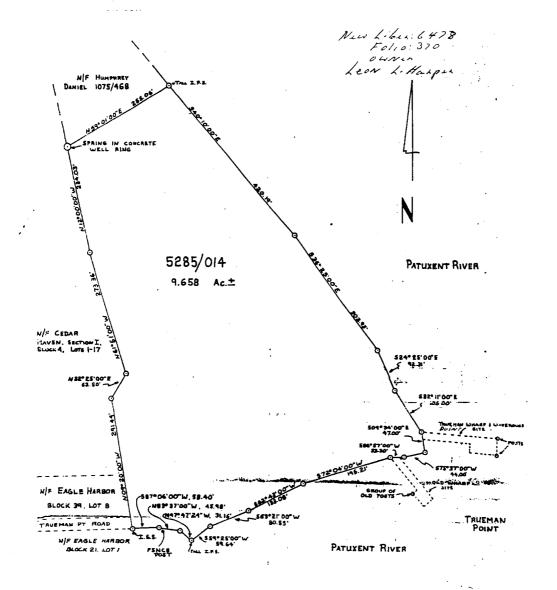
262:210 15 July 1926 Deed Manor Real Estate and Trust of Pennsylvania to Baltimore and Virginia Steamboat Co. For \$4650 grantor conveys all land, docks, piers, wharves, wharf rights, landings, privileges, stores and material formerly owned by Maryland, Delaware and Virgnia Railway Co. at locations along Patuxent and its tributaries in Calvert, Charles, St. Mary's and Prince George's Counties.

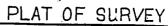
230:155 4 April 1923 Deed Girard Trust Co. and Noel W. Smith to Manor Real Estate and Trust Co. By cause in U.S. District Court for Maryland, Girard Real Estate sold on 7 May 1923 to Noel W. Smith of Philadelphia the whole of detailed property, for \$25,000, freed of mortgage dated 2-1-1905, conveyed to Girard Trust Co. Noel Smith now sells interest to Manor Real Estate and Trust Co.

20:455 . 1 Feb. 1905 Mortgage Maryland, Delaware and Virginia Railway Co. to Girard Trust Co. To pay off certain debts incurred in acquiring property and to retire \$330,000 worth of bonds known as Queen Anne's RR first Mortgage Preference Gold Bonds, grantors mortgage wharves, steamboats and wharf rights at points along Patuxent River.

22:263 28 Jan. 1905 Deed Weems Steamboat Company of Baltimore to the Maryland, Delaware and Virginia Railroad Company. For \$1,030,966.13 grantor conveys all assets including steamboats Northumberland, Lancaster, Middlesex, Potomac, Anne Arundel, Calvert, Westmoreland, St. Mary's, Essex and Caroline, as well as wharves, stores and materials.

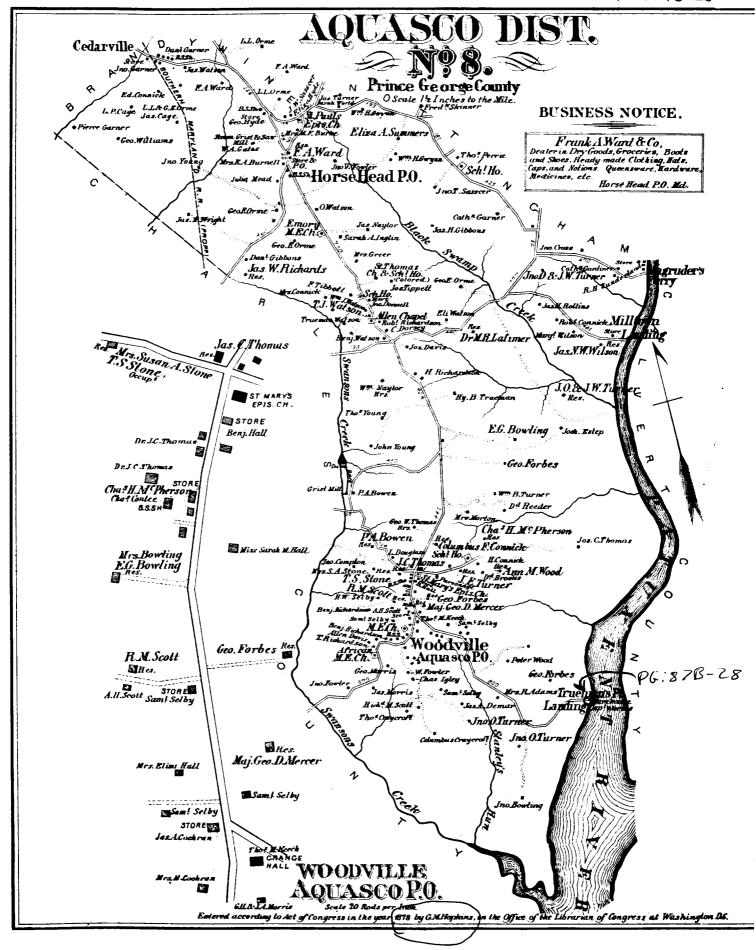
JWB 21:29 4 Jan. 1892 Deed Georgianna & Henry Williams, Matilda and Sydney Forbes, and Henry Williams, Trustee for estate Theodore Weems, dec'd. In consideration of contract between above and the Weems Steamboat Co. Inc., grantors convey to Company Truman's Point Wharf, Magruder's Ferry Wharf, White's or Riley's Landing and Wharf, Nottingham Wharf and Clagett's Landing Wharf - including all lands and rights conveyed by W.C. Hopkins and wife to Mason L. Weems and Theodore Weems, 18 Dec. 1850.

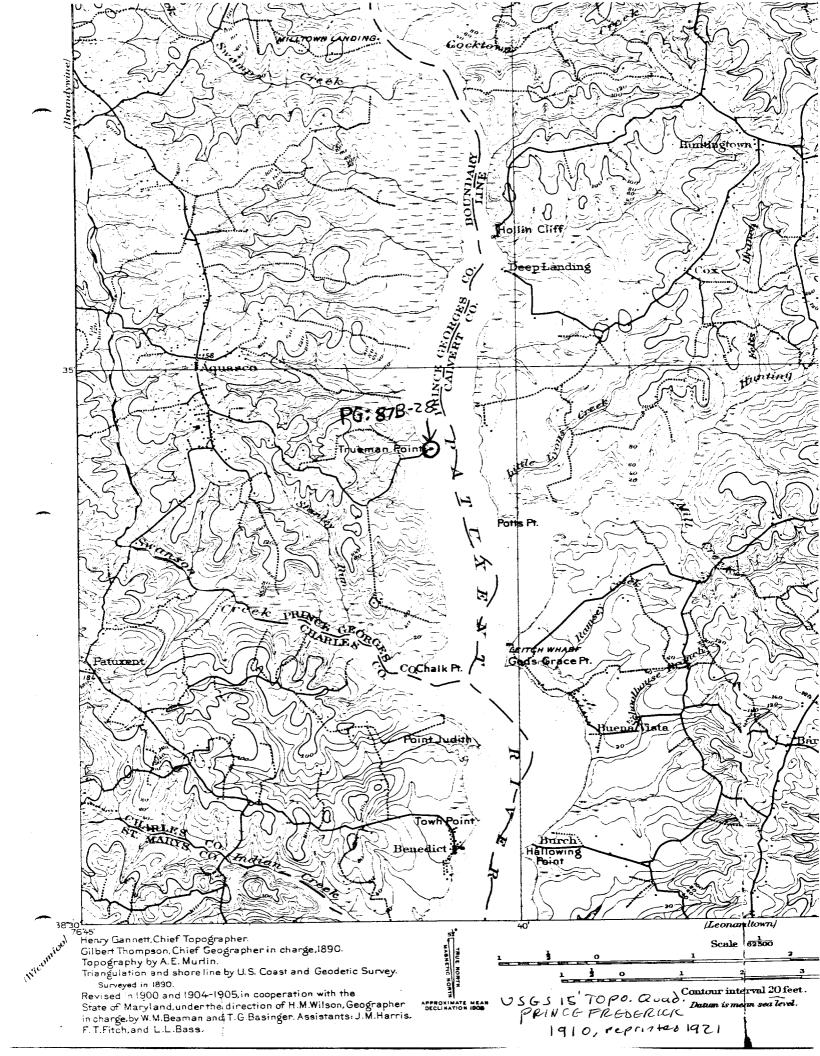


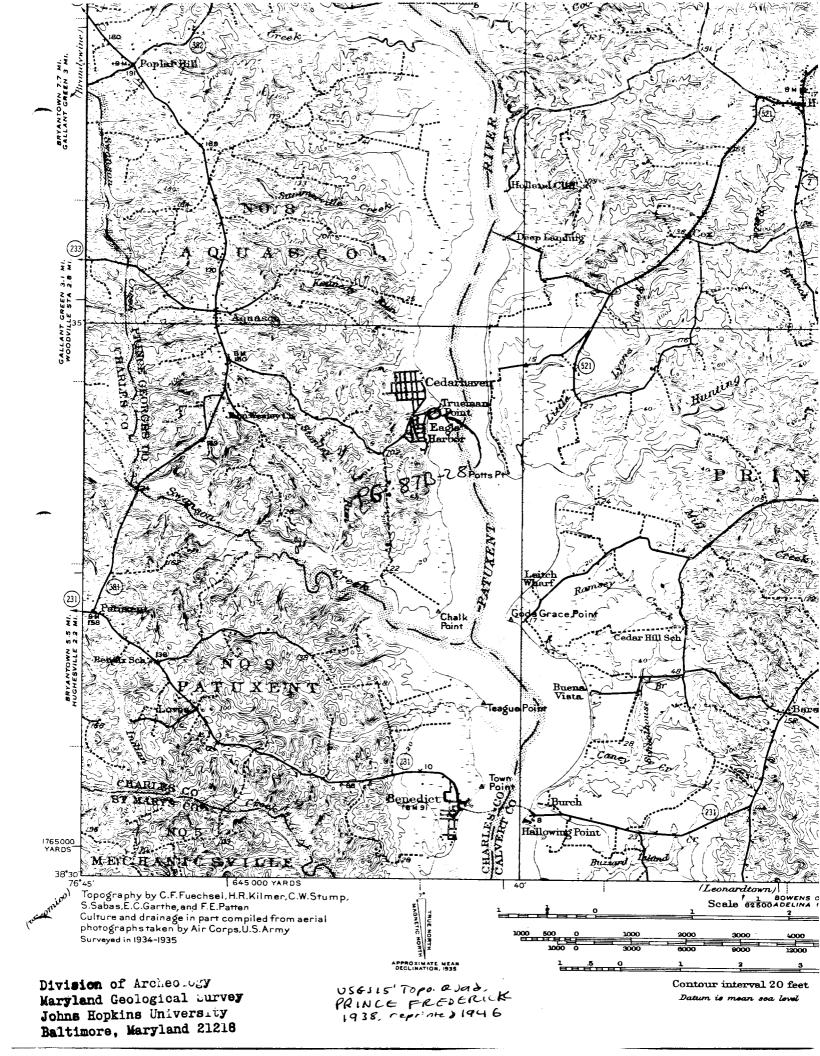


BEING LIBER 5285, FOLIO 14, EIGHTH ELECTION DISTRICT, PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY, M.D. PREPARED FOR KENNETH W. SUMMER PREPARED BY: JAMES L. DUNLOP, LAND SURVEYOR

14036







DG#878-2 Deep Landing 田

## Patuxent River Line

CORRECTED TO SEPTEMBER 12, 1921

Steamer leaves Baltimore, Pier 4, Light St., Tuesday and Thursday, 2.00 p. m. weather and tide permitting for the following points:

Fair Haven. Spencer's. Parker's, ◆St. Cuthbert's, Forrest's, Plum Point, ◆ Dare's, St. Leonard's, Duke's, Governor's Run Sollers, Holland Point, Millstone, Sotterley. Benedict. Solomon's Island, Cashner's, Lower Marlboro,

Returning, Steamer leaves:

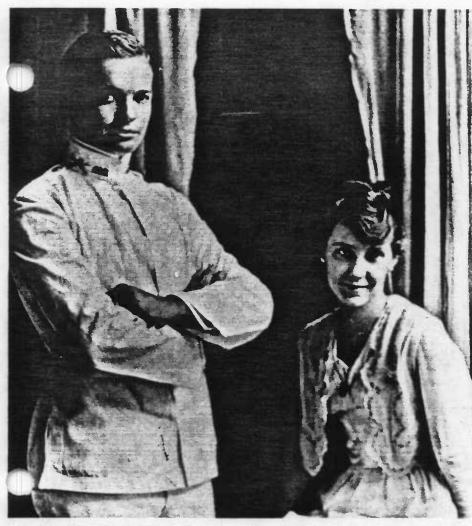
Lower Marlboro, WEDNESDAYS and FRIDAYS 9.30 a. m., weather and tide permitting, atopping at points as follows: Magruder's Ferry, Holland Cliffs, Deep Landing, Trueman's Point, Lietch's, Holland Point, 11.30 a. m., Benedict, 12.00 noon, Duke's, Forrest's, Parker's, Cashner's, Sotterley, 2.30 p. m., St. Leonard's, Sollers, \$\infty\$St. Cuthbert's \$\frac{3}{2}\text{pencer's}\$, Solomon's Island \$\frac{3}{2}\text{0}\$ p. m., Millstone, 6.00 p. m., Cove Point, Governor's Run, B.00 p. m. \$\infty\$Dare's, 8.20 p. m. Plum Point, 9.00 p. m., Fair Haven, 10.00 p. m., arriving at Baltimore next morning.

Steamer leaves Baltimore, Pier 4, Light St., weather and tide permitting, Saturday, 2.00 p.m., for the following points:

Fair Haven, Soller's, Trueman's Point. Deep Landing, Plum Point, Sotterley, Dare's, Cashner's. Holland's Cliffs, Governor's Run Parker's, Magruder's Ferry Cove Point, Forrest's, Lower Marlboro, Millstone, White Landing, Duke's, Solomon's Island Holland Point. Ferry Landing, Spencer's, Benedict. Nottingham. St. Cuthbert's, Lietch's, Lyon's Creek. St. Leonard's,

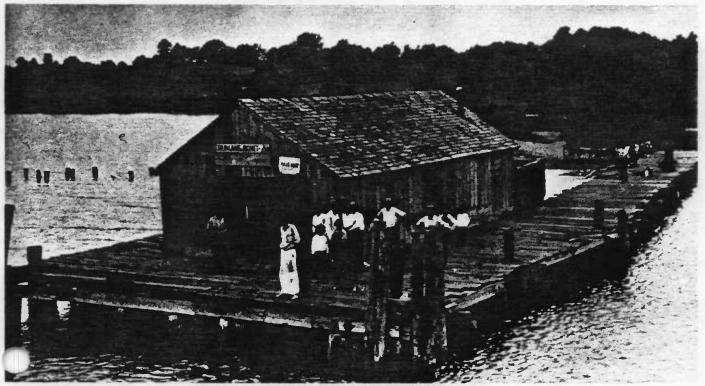
◆ Wharves Temporarily Abandoned.

Returning, Steamer leaves Lyon's Oreck, 7.00 a. m., weather and tide permitting, Monday, stopping at the above points: Nottingham, 8.00 a. m.; Lower Marlboro, 9.20 a. m.; Benedict, 12.00 noon; Sotterley's, 2.30 p. m.; Solomon's Island, 5.30 p. m.; Millstone, 5.00 p. m.; Governor's Run, 8.00 p. m. Dare's, 8.20 p. m. Plum Point, 9.00 p. m.; Fair Haven, 10.00 p. m.; arriving in Baltimore next morning.



While most presidents have visited Prince George's County at one time or another, Dwight Eisenhower was the only president to actually live here. In 1919, while a young army officer stationed at Camp Meade, he and Mrs. Eisenhower lived briefly at Mrs. Ray's rooming house at 327 Montgomery Street, Laurel. This is their wedding picture, taken three years earlier, on July 1, 1916. Courtesy of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library, Abilene, Kansas

This was the wharf at Trueman's Point, on the Patuxent River, about 1922. Trueman's Point was the southernmost Patuxent landing in Prince George's County, located near the village of Aquasco. During the twenties, two small communities, Crest Haven and Eagle Harbor, were laid out near Trueman's Point. They were built by black Washingtonians who wished to summer in the countryside. Eagle Harbor is an incorporated municipality, the smallest in this county. Courtesy of H. Graham Wood and Frederick Tilp



Virta, Alan 1984 Prince George's County, a Pictorial History. Norfolk: Donning Company.



P.G. #87B-28

Trueman Point
Prince George's County
Marina King
July 1987
Looking North
Neg: MD Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD